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1. (currently amended) A system, comprising:
a computer including a central processing unit (CPU) but not including a local hard disk drive;
an adapter coupled to the CPU for receiving local disk I/O requests therefrom, the adapter translating disk I/O requests into network I/O requests; and
at least one network resource communicating with the adapter for satisfying the local disk I/O requests.

2. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter is plugged into a motherboard holding the CPU.

3. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter is connected by a connecting cable to a motherboard holding the CPU.

4. (cancelled).

5. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter is also a computer network adapter.

6. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter is not a conventional computer network adapter, the computer including a conventional network adapter separate from the adapter.

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7. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter includes a sequence of bytes identifying the adapter to the CPU as a secondary boot device.

8. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter causes a conventional operating system configured for generating local disk I/O requests to be loaded from a network storage to a volatile memory in the computer.

9. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the adapter is housed within the computer.

10. (currently amended) A method for facilitating, in a diskless computer, the use of an operating system not modified to not issue local disk I/O requests, comprising:

receiving local disk I/O requests from the operating system; and

satisfying the local disk I/O requests by accessing a network communicating with the diskless computer, wherein the satisfying act includes translating the local disk I/O requests to network requests at an adapter engaged with the diskless computer, transparently to a CPU in the diskless computer.

11. (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) The method of Claim [11]10, comprising plugging the adapter into a motherboard holding a CPU of the diskless computer.

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13. (currently amended) The method of Claim [11]10, comprising connecting the adapter to a motherboard holding a CPU of the diskless computer using a connecting cable.

14. (currently amended) The method of Claim [11]10, wherein the adapter is also a computer network adapter.

15. (currently amended) The method of Claim [11]10, wherein the adapter is not a conventional computer network adapter, the diskless computer including a conventional network adapter separate from the adapter.

16. (currently amended) The method of Claim [11]10, wherein the adapter includes a sequence of bytes identifying the adapter to a CPU of the diskless computer as a secondary boot device.

17. (original) The method of Claim 10, comprising causing a conventional operating system configured for generating local disk I/O requests to be loaded from a network storage to a volatile memory in the computer.

18. (currently amended) The method of Claim [11]10, comprising disposing the adapter in the computer.

19. (currently amended) A diskless computer, comprising:

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A,
a CPU running an operating system not modified to not issue local disk I/O requests;
a disk-free adapter communicating with the operating system and receiving disk I/O requests
therefrom, the adapter translating the disk I/O requests to network requests; and
a network connection through which the disk I/O requests can be satisfied despite the lack
of a local hard disk drive in the computer.

20. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter is plugged into a motherboard
holding the CPU.

21. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter is connected by a connecting cable
to a motherboard holding the CPU.

22. (cancelled).

23. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter is also a computer network adapter.

24. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter is not a conventional computer
network adapter, the computer including a conventional network adapter separate from the adapter.

25. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter includes a sequence of bytes
identifying the adapter to the CPU as a secondary boot device.

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26. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter causes the operating system to be loaded from a network storage to a volatile memory in the computer.

27. (original) The computer of Claim 19, wherein the adapter is housed within the computer.

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